

IJA News & Muse
November 2009
Volume 26 Issue 11
Iowa Bonsai Association Newsletter
www.iabonsai.org



NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 11, 6:30, EIBA BOARD MEETING
Panera Bread meeting room

NOVEMBER 14, 1 PM, MAGRUDER FARM
BONSAI TECHNIQUES STUDY GROUP
Proper Wiring Techniques, bring a tree or a freshly cut branch with several side branches and your tools. Wire provided.

NOVEMBER 17, 6:30 PM, DES MOINES MEETING, Des Moines Botanical Center
Annual potluck dinner, bring your table service and a dish to share. Drinks provided. Spouses and partners welcome.
A slide show/video will be prepared to highlight meetings and workshops. Annual awards for 2009 and nominations for new board members for 2010.

Note time change-6:30

NOVEMBER 19, EIBA HOLIDAY PARTY
Metro Grill on 33rd Ave.
6:00 PM Cocktails, 6:30 PM Dinner

DECEMBER 2, 6:30 PM, EIBA BOARD MEETING, location TBA

NO CLUB MEETINGS IN DECEMBER

ANNUAL MEETING/POTLUCK

I hope everyone is planning to attend the annual meeting/potluck November 17, which, by the way, is at 6:30 instead of 7 PM. Not only will we share a meal but awards will be given in three categories to deserving club members. The annual election will also be held. Max Miller and Alan Magruder have been hard at work and have come up with a slate of nominees for the Board

of Directors. Those who have agreed to serve are:

Mike Adams
Angie Allison
Chuck Johnson
Dave Lowman
Helene Magruder
Max Miller
David Richmond

Be thinking of what you want from the club and what you would like to see included at club meetings.

The penalty that good men pay for not being interested in politics is to be governed by men worse than themselves. -Plato, philosopher (427-347 BCE)

TIMELY TIPS

As I write this my trees are still outdoors enjoying the beautiful weather. They have been sprayed a couple of times in preparation for storage. I have also cleaned my storage area and disinfected it. I am ready to whip them into storage when we get the inevitable winter weather. I hear that the Farmers Almanac is predicting a cold winter, with the weird weather we've had this year I'd believe anything.

Before putting your trees in storage inspect each tree carefully. Be sure to clean off any debris and weeds in the pots, they can harbor insects and fungus. Also clean the pot, spiders have a way of laying eggs on the under side of a pot. Remove any fertilizer cakes and moss. If a tree has been draining slowly, rake off the surface soil and replace it with a bit of fresh soil. You will be amazed at how much better it will drain. Remove any wire that is getting tight or has done its job. Conifers may go for several years before the

wire needs to be removed, however check young trees as they tend to grow faster.

Pines can be worked on now. Old needles can be removed. Black pines can be pulled but take care on other pines, if they don't come out easily it would be best to cut them. I spend a lot of time during the winter rewiring my pines.

We will not have a meeting in December but winter is a great time to do some reading. Check out the club library, we have a selection of DVD's , a number of books and a complete collection of Bonsai Today. Take an armful home and browse to your heart's content.

Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested. -Francis Bacon, essayist, philosopher, and statesman (1561-1626)

CLUB JACKETS

You may have noticed the jackets that Alan and I wore at the Fall Show. Linda Svec made them. They are good quality cotton, forest green with two big pockets and the club logo machine stitched on the left front. Linda will make one for any one in the club. The cost is \$90 to \$100 depending on size. If you are interested give her a call at 515-996-2581

VISIT TO TELPERION BONSAI NURSERY

by John Denny

On a recent visit to the west coast I was fortunate to find a day to visit Telperion Farms in Oregon. Telperion is a tree nursery dedicated to growing trees specifically for bonsai material. They began plantings 8 years ago and 10,000 trees later are just now beginning to harvest a few trees. I was amicably hosted by Gary Wood and owners Chris and Lisa Kirk.

As the morning mists slowly lifted, the day dawned cool and sunny, perfect for spending most of the day outside. Telperion is located on a very large hillside with fields of trees scattered about the 100+ acre property. Fields included propagation fields with trees used for cuttings and unique crosses - they like to experiment. Other fields included azaleas, junipers, black

pine, Scot's pine, lots of various maples (Tridents, DeShojos, GW1, etc), deciduous trees like hornbeams, shohin fields, etc. Although most trees are still in ground, many were in nursery pots, Anderson trays or bonsai pots.

One of the impressive aspects of their location is how much growth they get each year in Oregon. They have long growing seasons in spring and fall, and summers are cool so the trees never really shut down due to heat. The root growth is amazing. Gary dug up several trees to show the root growth and trunk thickening.

Telperion puts a lot of effort and care into each tree. They are repeatedly dug up, root pruned, and they use special techniques to make sure the roots are radial and straight to create beautiful nebari. The trees then go back into the ground or Anderson trays or root bags. Care is taken to create good low branching for the future. Using the proper soil is important, too, and they use various soils at different stages of the tree's development to create fine roots, then thicker roots and nebari.

In short, these folks don't just plant trees, water them, and harvest a few years later. They really put effort, science, and key bonsai nursery techniques into each tree. I believe they will soon be known as the premier bonsai nursery in the country. Keep an eye out for their trees in the future."

Here are a couple of trees from their website, check them out at: <http://www.telperionfarms.com/About%20us%20v2.htm>, Ed.





JOSHUA ROTH NEW TALENT BONSAI COMPETITION

Joshua Roth New Talent Bonsai Competition
Supported by ABS at MABS

The New Talent Bonsai Competition that was featured, for the first time, at the 2002 American Bonsai Society Symposium in Milwaukee, has become an annual event. The Joshua Roth Company of Albany, Oregon now sponsors the Competition.

The 2010 Competition will take place at the "MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies 2010 Spring Festival", which will be held at the Hudson Valley Resort and Spa, Kerhonkson, New York on April 16, 2010. The competition is aimed at discovering and promoting new talent in the art of bonsai and is the first of its kind to be held in North America. The concept of the Competition is very simple. Phase one, judging of previous work, is used to select the contestants for the second phase. In the second phase, each

participant will be given eight hours to create the very best bonsai they can produce from specially selected material.

After the entrants have completed their work, four of the Festival headliners will judge the bonsai that have been created. All full registrants at the Festival will also have the opportunity to vote for their choice. The winner will be announced Saturday night at the banquet. The Grand Prize for the Joshua Roth New Talent Bonsai Competition is an exclusive course of study with an approved bonsai teacher and hotel accommodations if the teacher is not in the winner's home town. The winning artist will also be profiled in the Journal of the American Bonsai Society under the title of "Best New Bonsai Talent of 2010."

If you have someone in your club that has the talent and the drive to become one of North America's top new bonsai talents, please encourage him or her to enter the competition. Your club could be the "home club" of the best new bonsai talent of North America in 2010. If you feel very strongly that your club member has the talent to win the Competition, your club may even wish to sponsor his or her participation. Please publicize the Competition in your club newsletter and persuade the club's most talented members, who meet the requirements, to enter the Competition. A copy of the application form for the use of your members is attached. If you need more copies, it is acceptable to reproduce the application form.

We are very excited about this competition, and hope that it is exciting to you as well. We look forward to seeing the work of your club members in the competition.

Information and registration forms are posted on the ABS web site at

www.absbonsai.org.

If you have any questions please contact me directly:

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Joshua Roth New Talent Bonsai Competition
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Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body. -Joseph Addison, essayist and poet (1672-1719)